

Milford Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes February 11 , 2021 7:00pm Zoom Meeting Room

Considering the COVID 19 (corona virus) social distancing advised by the Governor and CDC, the Town of Milford, following a declaration of emergency by the Conservation Commission Chair, is providing meeting participation via telephone conference for your safety. If you would like to participate in the telephone conference, please call : **+1 646-558 8656 and enter the Meeting ID: 836 1991 8189.** Or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83619918189?pwd=bXlERisyVjITZkdsUEU5Y29WL3NIQT09>. To participate in the meeting, “raise your hand for recognition” by pressing *9 on your device. The meeting will be live streaming on Granite Town Media, Government Channel 21: <http://gtm.milford.nh.gov/CablecastPublicSite/watch/2?channel=2> .

Members

John Yule, Acting Chair Chris Costantino (Alt)
Kim Rimalover,
Anita Stevens
Rodney Dellafelice

Town Representatives

Laura Dudziak, BOS rep
Lincoln Daley, Community Development Director

Guests

- Marie Nickerson – 4th meeting attended as a prospective MCC member.
- Andy Seale – former MCC member returning to the MCC

Excused: David Bosquet, Andy Hughes

Appointment :

Item	Discussion	Who Will Do What
1. Meeting Minutes approval	The January meeting minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Anita, seconded by Kim	
2. Trevor Naun - Eagle Scout Project	Trevor contacted the MCC. He would like to build and install a bike station along the rail trail. He did not attend tonight's meeting. Andy Seale is aware that Trevor's troop had a meeting tonight.	CC- Contact Trevor for follow up
3. Maple Sugaring at Spaulding open space	Peter Basiliere would like to tap the sugar maple trees in the Spaulding/Wright St Open Space. Previous tapping equipment, probably belonging to Dave Wheeler, is still on site. The open space is still owned by the developer, whose contact information was given to Pete. Discussion occurred regarding sugaring and impact on the timber health. The MCC will work on a policy for maple sugaring in town forests	CC – find best management practices for maple sugaring and a policy template for our use/adaptation
4. NHRTC membership renewal	The members unanimously approved a motion by Anita, seconded by Chris, to renew our \$35 membership to the New Hampshire Rail Trail Coalition	
5. 4 th Saturday hike	a. January hike – Rail Trail from DPW. Andy led a small group from the DPW trail head to the new tunnel at Melendy Rd. It was cold and a good hike. b. February hike – Brox. Chris will lead the hike, parking at the Heron Pond Elementary School	
6. Pay for webinars to American Trails	The members unanimously approved a motion by Chris, seconded by Rodney, to donate \$100 to the American Trails organization. American Trails has hosted, nearly weekly, 1.5-hour webinars about trail design, maintenance, funding, diversity, studies, use, conflict resolution, etc. These webinars have been a	

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The order and matters of this meeting are subject to change without further notice.

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	tremendous resource and have replaced our ongoing COVID-cancelled local trainings.	
7. New Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is Marie Nickerson's 4th meeting, including the January 28th work session. She would like to be appointed as a full member of the MCC. The members unanimously approved, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Kim, to recommend the BOS to appoint Marie to the MCC. Andy Seale, a former member of the MCC, is able and willing to be reappointed to the MCC. The members unanimously approved, on a motion by Chris seconded by Kim, to recommend the BOS to appoint AndyS to the MCC. 	CC to submit the appropriate paperwork to Tina Philbrick for these appointment recommendations
8. Reports	<p>BOSCE (Brox Open Space Conservation Easement). AndyH and Chris attended the Feb 8 BOS meeting to participate in their discussion about the \$30,000 Brox Gravel Conservation Easement stewardship fund. This discussion, based on a request to put the \$30K into their 2021 budget, began in December. This cost was not put into the 2021 BOS budget. The BOS repeated their suggestion, from their December 22 2020 meeting, that the MCC pay for the CE stewardship.</p> <p>Lincoln Daley participated in our discussion of the BOS suggestion with the question, "Why can't the MCC pay for the \$30K stewardship fund from the Conservation Land Fund?" The reasons presented by the MCC were: 1) This Conservation Easement is one of the permit conditions and is a cost of the project. The town is receiving revenue from the gravel extraction, in addition to the reclamation portion of the project. The revenues will cover the Stewardship Fund cost. 2) The MCC applied for and was awarded a \$20K ARM grant, which is being applied to the cost of the survey. This survey is necessary to define the Conservation Easement area. The cost of the survey is about 40% of the cost of the Conservation Easement. This is a generous match to a cost that is, ultimately, a cost of the town project. 3) This cost should have been included in the 2021 budget. It is not the MCC's responsibility to pay for it when the BOS did not include it in their budget. 4) The Conservation Land Fund is intended to be used for the protection of natural resources; often as an assist to landowners to permanently protect their property while retaining ownership and paying taxes on the property. Using these limited funds, which are difficult to replenish at town vote without BOS support, for a cost that can be offset by gravel revenues is an inappropriate use of the funds.</p>	
	Melendy purchase – ML 52-4-1. BOS meeting Feb 9 th . The BOS approved the MCC's request to purchase the 2.5-acre parcel located to the east of the rail trail south of the Melendy Rd crossing, using \$31K from the Conservation Land Fund.	CC – contact Bob Moulton for next steps
	<p>Forest Management Plans updating project – Tucker Brook.</p> <p>- Conclusions and actions from January 28th Work session. AndyH, Anita, Chris and Marie met on</p>	CC – will set up a site walk with Dan Reed,

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	January 28 th . Discussion about action to take regarding the 2008 Forest Management Plan recommendation for a timber harvest on the Burns and Sullivan lots.	Professional Forester.
	Replacement trailhead sign with Classic Sign – the sign will cost \$188 to be lettered by Classic Sign. Brian Hawkins, Trails Committee Chair, will paint the letters and finish coat the sign. Steve Erdody, the Trails Committee VChair, will assemble the sign from wood in the shed.	CC – will work with Classic Sign to replace the broken Whitten Rd trailhead sign
	Warrant article for 2021 – no further action needed	
	Armory Rd /Rail Trail crossing – prep for the next RTP grant round	
	Trail Rules at Rail Trail – Andy placed signage at the power lines, the tunnel, and at the Johnson Easement. He saw that snowmobilers were accepting the recommendation to not ride up the single-track trail around the mobile home park.	
	Open subdivisions – place holders to check for changes Falcon Ridge – Monumentation of lots. Some of the lots have been monumented Spaulding – Monumentation and easement of the open space	
	Brookstone Conservation Easement – still on the Fieldstone drafting table	
9. Interdepartmental Review. The Plan is in google drive	M21 L4 * Crosby Condominiums Elm Street. The members reviewed the plan. Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the landscaping proposed to mitigate the expanded impervious surface? • Where is the snow storage? • What is proposed to protect residents from the steep slopes at the back of the developed portion of the property? • How is the stormwater being directed to the retention basin? * Chris realized that this is the incorrect Map and Lot. It is actually Map 19 Lot 5 located at 159 Elm Street	CC – write and deliver IDR memo to Planning staff

Next Regular Meeting – March 11, 2021 @ 7PM.

The venue will be virtual i.e., a Zoom Meeting. If the town's COVID-related requirement for remote mtgs is lifted beforehand, the venue will be the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

2021 Meeting Dates: Feb 11. Mar 11. Apr 8. May 13. June 10, Jul 8. Aug 12. Sept 9. Oct 14. Nov 11. Dec 9